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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/613,983	07/11/2000	Robert C. Leah	RSW9-2000-0044-US1	1817

7590 02/11/2004
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EXAMINER

TRAN, TONGOC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2134

DATE MAILED: 02/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/613,983

Applicant(s)

LEAH ET AL.

Examiner

Tongoc Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to applicants' application serial no. 09/613,983 filed on 7/12/2000.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blakley, III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,862,323, hereinafter Blakley).

In respect to claim 1, Blakley discloses a computing environment having a connection to a network, a computer program product for securely propagating security credentials from a trusted master registry, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

computer-readable program code means for establishing a secure connection between a client and a password synchronization agent (PSA) (see col. 3, lines 35-46);

computer-readable program code means for transmitting an identifier of a user and an identifying secret of the user to the PSA (see col. 3, lines 35-46);

computer-readable program code means for validating the user with the trusted master registry using the transmitted user identifier and identifying secret; and

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computer-readable program code means for propagating the identifying secret of the user to one or more target registries if the validation succeeds (see col. 2, lines 55-col. 3, lines 20, col. 6, lines 40-60).

In respect to claim 2, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, further comprising:

computer-readable program code means for establishing a second secure connection between the PSA and the trusted master registry (see col. 11, lines 27-31); and

computer-readable program code means for using the second secure connection for the validating of the user (see col. 2, lines 34-44).

In respect to claim 3, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, further comprising:

computer-readable program code means for establishing additional secure connections between the PSA and each of the target registries; and computer-readable program code means for using the additional secure connections for the propagating of the identifying secret (see col. 8, lines 34-44).

In respect to claim 4, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the master registry stores password synchronization policy information, and wherein the computer-readable program code means for propagating the identifying secret further comprises computer-readable program code means for identifying the target repositories using the stored password synchronization policy information for the user (see col. 3, lines 54-60, col. 5, lines 49-62, col. 6, lines 40-60).

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In respect to claim 5, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the master registry stores password synchronization policy information, and wherein the computer-readable program code means for propagating the identifying secret further comprises computer-readable program code means for identifying the target repositories using the stored password synchronization policy information for a user group of which the user is a member (see col. 5, lines 49-62, col. 6, lines 40-60).

In respect to claim 6, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code means for establishing the secure connection further comprises computer-readable program code means for authenticating the PSA to the client (see col. 5, lines 49-62, col. 6, lines 40-60).

In respect to claim 7, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 2, wherein the computer-readable program code means for establishing the second secure connection further comprises computer readable program code means for authenticating the master registry to the PSA (see col. 2, lines 34-45).

In respect to claim 8, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 3, wherein the computer-readable program code means for establishing additional secure connections further comprises computer readable program code means for authenticating the one or more target registries to the PSA (see col. 2, lines 34-45).

In respect to claim 9, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code means for validating further comprises:

computer-readable program code means for performing a security function on the identifying secret of the user, wherein the security function comprises one of (i) a one-way hashing algorithm or (ii) an encryption algorithm (see col. 3, lines 9-19);

computer-readable program code means for using the user identifier to locate a previously-stored identifying secret of the user which was stored by the master registry; and computer-readable program code means for comparing the located identifying secret to a result of performing the security function (see col. 2, lines 34-45).

In respect to claim 10, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the computer-readable program code means for validating further comprises computer-readable program code means for invoking an authenticated LDAP bind or other native authentication mechanism of the master registry, wherein the identifier of the user and the identifying secret of the user are passed to the master registry, thereby causing the master registry to validate the passed identifier and identifying secret and return a result which reports a success or failure of the validation (see col. 7, line 52-col. 8, line 4) .

In respect to claim 11, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, wherein the PSA has administrative authority for performing operations at the one or more target registries (see col. 11, lines 27-31).

In respect to claim 12, Blakley discloses the computer program product according to Claim 1, further comprising:

computer-readable program code means for obtaining a new value from the user to be used as the propagated identifying secret; and computer-readable program code means for substituting this new value for the identifying secret prior to operation of the computer-readable program code means for propagating (see col. 7, line 52-col. 8, line 4).

In respect to claims 13-24, the claim limitations are system claims that are substantially similar to computer readable medium claims 1-12. Therefore, claims 13-24 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

In respect to claims 25-36, the claim limitations are method claims that are substantially similar to computer readable medium claims 1-12. Therefore, claims 25-36 are rejected based on the similar rationale.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

-Huynh et al. Disclose a system, method and data structure provide for securely synchronizing passwords and/or other information between systems.

-Swift et al. Disclose a method for changing passwords on a remote computer.

-Blakely, III et al. disclose a configurable password integrity servers for use in a shared resource environment.

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-Perlman discloses a method and system for establishing a shared secret using an authentication token.

-Suchter discloses a managing changes to a directory of electronic documents.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tongoc Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-7690. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory A. Morse can be reached on (703) 308-4789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7240.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-9600.

Examiner: Tongoc Tran
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TT

January 28, 2004

Matthew B. Smithers
MATTHEW SMITHERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Art Unit 2137